



**Community
Services
Department**
Connecting People to Opportunities

PARKS DIVISION

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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**November 15, 2016
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CACHUMA LAKE RECREATION INFORMATION FOR DECEMBER 2016 *Program and Activity Schedule Enclosed*

(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.) – Announcing the Cachuma Lake December schedule for rest, relaxation, recreation and adventure. The Holiday season is upon us, which may mean a few extra days off in your schedule. Why not spend them at our local treasure --Cachuma Lake! We are in the midst of “eagle season” at Cachuma Lake where our Winter Wildlife Cruise highlights resident and migratory bald eagles, and other wildlife here for the winter season.

Located off scenic Highway 154 in the Santa Ynez Valley, Cachuma Lake is midway between the coast of Santa Barbara and the Danish community of Solvang. For easy trip planning, Cachuma Lake offers online reservations at www.sbparks.org. Enclosed below is a schedule of upcoming activities and programs that every member of the family may enjoy.

Special Announcements and Programs:

Trout Release

4,000 pounds of Rainbow Trout were released in November.

Description: In cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Santa Barbara County Parks was granted a Private Stocking Permit to plant trout. Trout ranging in size from half a pound “catchables,” to eight pound “trophies” are now ready and waiting to be caught! Cachuma Lake Marina and Boat Rentals offers pontoons, outboards and kayak rentals, along with full bait and tackle supplies. One-day and annual fishing licenses may also be purchased. Fishing from shore in the recreation area or from a boat is open year-round with a valid fishing license. For more information, read more below or contact the marina at (805) 688-4040.

-MORE-

CACHUMA LAKE RECREATION SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2016

ADD 1-1-1

Year-Round Nature Programs:

Cachuma Lake Winter Wildlife Cruise “Eagle Season at Cachuma Lake”

2 p.m.-4 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays; 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays

Description: This pontoon cruise is led by a Santa Barbara County Park naturalist who highlights eagle season. It is a great time of year to see beautiful species of waterfowl and perhaps a resident or visiting bald eagle as well. The cruise also focus on flora, geology and cultural history.

Admission: \$10 per vehicle, plus \$17/adults, \$7/children (4-12 years old).

Reservations: Monday-Friday, call (805) 568-2460; weekends, call (805) 686-5055

Information: Call the Park Naturalist office at (805) 688-4515 or go to www.sbparks.org and click on “Nature Cruise.” To schedule a private weekday cruise for schools and groups, please call the Park Naturalist office at (805) 688-4515.

Holiday Closure: There will be no cruise on Christmas day, Sunday, December 25

Cachuma Lake Nature Walk

10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Saturdays

Description: Santa Barbara County Park naturalists and interpretive guides lead an easy-paced, half mile walk on the Oak Canyon Nature Trail. Attendees should meet at the Neal Taylor Nature Center.

Admission: Free for campers. \$10 park entry fee for non-campers.

Information: The Nature Walk is limited to 20 participants on a first come, first serve basis. Large groups are encouraged to call the Park Naturalists in advance at (805) 688-4515. To schedule a private nature walk for schools and groups on weekdays, please call the Park Naturalist office at (805) 688-4515.

Cachuma Lake Junior Ranger Program

12:30-1:30 p.m., Saturdays

Description: Kids earn a Junior Ranger badge as they learn about wildlife and care of the natural environment with the help of a Santa Barbara County Park Naturalist. Participants should meet at the Nature Center.

Admission: \$2 per child in addition to \$10 per vehicle Park day use fee.

Information: The program is limited to 30 participants on a first come, first serve basis. Groups of 10 or more participants are asked to make arrangements in advance by calling the Naturalist Office at (805) 688-4515. For those who can't attend a Saturday session, we now offer “Jr. Rangers To-Go.” To schedule a date and time, or other information, please call the Naturalist Office at (805) 688-4515.

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CACHUMA LAKE RECREATION SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2016

ADD 2-2-2

Neal Taylor Nature Center at Cachuma Lake:

Neal Taylor Nature Center

10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday – Saturday

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sunday

Description: The Neal Taylor Nature Center with gift and book shop is located in the historic white ranch house behind Cachuma Lake General Store. Exhibits and hands-on displays for all ages feature local wildlife, birds, plant life, geology and local history.

Holiday Closures: Closed on Christmas Eve day; Saturday, December 24 and Christmas day; Sunday, December 25.

Admission: Free admission for campers. \$10 park entry fee for non-campers.

Information: Call (805) 693-0691, see park bulletin boards, or visit www.clnaturecenter.org.

Nature Center Detectives

Available any day and time the Nature Center is open!

Description: Fun Nature Center scavenger hunt that is open to all ages.

Admission: Free with \$10 park entry fee per vehicle.

Information: Call (805) 693-0691 or visit www.clnaturecenter.org.

Outdoor Recreation at Cachuma Lake:

Cachuma Lake Hiking – There are four miles of trails for self-guided hikes within the Park. Pick up a trail map at the front gate. \$10 park admission per vehicle. For more information, call (805) 688-4515 or visit www.sbparks.org.

Cachuma Lake Fishing – Fishing from shore or a boat is open year-round with a valid fishing license. The lake supports rainbow trout, large and smallmouth bass, crappie, and channel catfish. Check the website for the Weekly Fishing Report, and for boat inspection and launch requirements to control invasive species. **NOTE:** Due to 30-day Quagga restrictions, please have your personal boat inspected and tagged by Cachuma Lake staff at least 30 days before launching. For more information, go to www.sbparks.org and search “Quagga” under Boating.

Cachuma Lake Marina & Boat Rentals – The marina and lake is open daily. Lake hours for December 1-15: 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and December 16-31: 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Boat rentals, party boats, pontoon boats, kayak rentals, slip rentals, one-day fishing licenses, and full bait and tackle are available. For more information, please call (805) 688-4040.

Bow Fishing for Carp – Bow fishing is permitted at Cachuma Lake. Permits are free and obtained at the lake. See Carp Bow Fishing at Cachuma Lake at www.sbparks.org for completed information and regulations.